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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
WATER WELL CONTRACTORS EXAMINING BOARD

TO THE  
GOVERNOR OF MONTANA  
HONORABLE FORREST H. ANDERSON

FOR THE  
FISCAL YEAR ENDED  
June 30, 1970

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# State of Montana

## Water Well Contractors' Examining Board

STATE CAPITOL  
HELENA, MONTANA

July 27, 1970

The Honorable Forrest H. Anderson  
Governor  
State of Montana  
Helena, Montana

Dear Governor Anderson:

In accordance with the requirements of Section 82-4002 RCM 1947, there is herewith transmitted to you the report of the Montana Water Well Contractors Examining Board covering the fiscal year ended June 30, 1970.

The Montana Water Well Contractors Examining Board's major functions are to minimize the waste of ground water resources within the state, and protect the health and general welfare by providing a means for development of underground water in an orderly, sanitary and reasonable manner by licensing water well contractors.

During the past year ten of the eleven applicants taking the examination passed successfully, there were 150 renewals for the year 1970-1971 which were due June 30, 1970.

Total fees deposited by June 30, 1970 were \$4,884.00. The fees do not balance with the number of licenses issued as a person may pay his fee due June 30, 1970 anytime before July 31, 1970. After that date the license would be revoked and may be reinstated only by paying the original fee of \$100.00 and taking the examination.

The Montana Water Well Contractors Examining Board shares office space and office services with the State Plumbing Board for a fee of \$150.00 per month or \$1,800.00 per year.

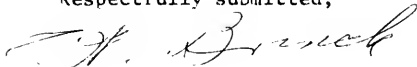
One part-time inspector is employed for not more than sixty days to make an annual tour of the state, and to make investigations when needed. He is paid \$20.00 per day and per diem.



The Board should be increased by two board members as it is impossible to hold a meeting with one member chairman and in the event that one board member is absent it is impossible to hold a meeting since no one could second motions. With all three members present if both members do not agree on a motion there is no second made. The other members should come from the water well industry so the water well industry would be represented as is the case on other boards.

The Board would like to have all wells that are to be used for domestic purposes regardless of the depth come under the licensing law. At the present time anyone drilling to a depth less than 25 feet need not be licensed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. W. Brinck".

C. W. Brinck, Chairman



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## PRINCIPAL OFFICES AND OFFICERS

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### WATER WELL CONTRACTORS EXAMINING BOARD

OFFICER TERM OF OFFICE	HOME ADDRESS
C. W. Brinck, Chairman Permanent	1234 Winnie, Helena
Douglas Smith Permanent	802 Broadway, Helena
Wesley Linsav 1969-1973	Clancy, Montana
Ernest Bond Permanent (non-voting member)	Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology

### PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Claiborne W. Brinck, Director, Division of Environmental Sanitation,  
State Board of Health

Marv L. Date, Secretary

### PRINCIPAL OFFICE

Old St. Peter's Hospital Building, 35 - 11th, Helena  
Mailing Address: State Capitol Station



## LEGAL REFERENCES

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The statutes relation to the operation of the Water Well Contractors Examining Board is contained in Title 66 Chapter 26, Sections 2601 through 2615.

Rules and Regulations were adopted by the Board at a public hearing in October 1961, as set forth by Section 66-2605 (5).

The 1969 Legislative Assembly added a non-voting member, who is a technical advisor hydrogeologist appointed by the director of the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology. Section 66-2404.



## PRINCIPAL GOALS

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The Montana Water Well Contractors Examining Board exists to reduce and minimize the waste of ground water resources in Montana by the licensing of water well contractors that develop ground water by properly constructing water wells to prevent commingling of bacterially polluted waters with waters that are free of such pollution.



PROGRAM INVENTORY AND COST SUMMARY

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<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>COST</u>
	<u>1969-70 F.Y.</u>
ADMINISTRATION	\$4,326.00
Licensing	
Examination	
Examinations	
Inspector	
TOTAL PROGRAM COSTS	\$4,326.00





## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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### LICENSING PROGRAM

Achievements. During the 1969-1970 fiscal year there were 140 licenses renewed for the coming year 1970-1971. The renewal fee is \$25.00 and if a license is not renewed by July 31, 1970, the license is revoked and the person would have to pay an original fee of \$100.00 and be re-examined. The licensed water well contractor must post a \$1,000.00 bond payable to the State of Montana.

### EXAMINATION PROGRAM

Achievements. There were eleven applicants for the water well contractor's examination. Ten were successful and initial licenses were issued effective until June 30, 1970.

### INSPECTIONS

Achievements. The Board employs one part-time inspector. In the fiscal year 1969-1970 he worked 53 days at a cost of \$1,060.00, his salary and travel was \$1,002.00. The inspector makes a tour of the state once a year and makes a point to call on the newly licensed water well contractors to see that their rigs are properly labeled, and the current label is attached. He also calls on the previous licensed drillers, and looks for rigs owned by unlicensed water well contractors. Because of the inspector's efforts this past year two out of state contractors were licensed, one in the state obtained his license, and one left the state with a warrant for his arrest should he return to drill wells.



## MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

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### 1. PROGRAM: LICENSING

REQUIRED IMPLEMENTATION ACTION: LEGISLATIVE

PRIORITY RATING: 1 of 2

CATEGORY: ALL DOMESTIC WATER WELLS

Recommendation. All domestic water wells regardless of the depth must be constructed by a licensed water well contractor or by the individual land owner.

Discussion. It is very necessary that all domestic wells be properly constructed to protect the health of those using the water and the underground waters. There are several places in the state with a high watertable and good water is found at 20 to 25 feet, but if water wells are not properly constructed they have been known to pollute large underground water sources.

### 2. PROGRAM: BOARD MEMBERS

REQUIRED LEGISLATION ACTION

PRIORITY RATING: 2 of 2

CATEGORY: ADD TWO BOARD MEMBERS

Recommendation. Two board members should be added from the drilling industry.

Discussion. The board consists of the Director of the Division of Environmental Sanitation of the State Board of Health, the State Engineer (now Director of the Water Resources Board), one member appointed by the governor, and one non-voting member who is a technical advisor hydrogeologist appointed by the director of the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology. It is impossible to hold a meeting if one of the board members fails to appear as one member acts as the chairman and there is no one to second a motion. With just the three members if one does not desire to second a motion the motion is dead. The present board feels the new board members should come from the industry so the industry would be properly represented.



## ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMS

### LICENSING

Services Provided. Any person who constructs water wells upon land other than his own for compensation is required to have a license. This does not apply to a person drilling a water well on land which is owed or leased by him and used for farming, ranching or agricultural purposes or as his place of abode. A licensed water well contractor is issued a large certificate and with each renewal he is given a current card one half may be carried in his wallet and the other fits in the lower left hand corner of the certificate. He is also provided with a current seal that must be placed on each rig. The color of the seal is changed yearly.

Under the rules and regulations of the board a License of Montana Water Well Contractors is required to paint or attach on all drill rigs which he uses in such business the word "LICENSED MONTANA WATER WELL CONTRACTOR" and immediately under these words he shall paint or attach the number of his license in the space so provided with the letter and numbers 1 1/2 inches high. All lettering and numbering shall be in distinct color contrast with its background. A licensed contractor deposits with the board a surety bond of \$1,000.00 to insure tht such licensee will comply with the rules and regulations of the Board and all reasonable requirements made by the Board in connection with the drilling of any individual well.

Target Groups. Any person that drills water wells on land other than his own for compensation. The licensing also protects the general public.

Achievements. There were 140 licenses renewed for the fiscal year 1970-1971. Eight licenses were dropped. The annual license renewal fee is \$25.00.

### EXAMINATIONS

Services Provided. Examinations are given on all work days, Monday through Friday but the examination must be started by 9 A.M. or by 2 P.M. The examination is written and consists of 50 matching, multiple choice and essay questions. An oral examination is offered when a person has a grade below 70 and above 50. An applicant must have knowlege of Montana Ground Water Laws and sanitary standards for water well drilling and construction of water wells; knowledge of types of water well construction; knowledge of types of drilling tools and their respective uses; knowledge of underground geology in its relation to well construction; possession of adequate equipment to complete satisfactory water wells under the standards adopted by the Board; financial responsibility by posting a \$1,000.00 surety bond.



## ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMS

Target Group. Any person that obtains a water well contractor's license.

Achievements. During the fiscal year 1969-1970 ten of eleven applicants taking the examination successfully qualified for licenses. The fee for the examination is \$100.00. If an applicant fails the examination he must wait six months and pay another \$100.00 before he is again permitted to take the examination.

### INSPECTION

Services Provided. The Board or its authorized representative has the power and authority to inspect water wells drilled, or drilling and has access to the same at all reasonable times.

Objective. It is the goal of the Board to see that the law, rules and regulations are carried out to protect the public and the underground water resources.

Target Group. The general public and the licensed water well contractors.

Achievements. Under the rules and regulations, adopted at a public hearing in 1961, the law, and the surety bond the public can be assured of a properly constructed water well, using high grade materials, and receiving a log of the well that will assure the person of a water right when it is properly recorded.

The inspector makes annual tours of the state, and if a violation is reported in an area he investigates the matter and prepares written reports to the Board on every person contacted and his findings. These reports are on file and available for review. During the fiscal year 1969-1970 the inspector prepared 103 reports and traveled 6,882 miles and worked 53 days.

Cost and Performance Summary. The following data is presented in summary form. Additional supporting data is available upon request.

	. . . . . FISCAL YEARS. . . . .		
	History 1968-69	Current 1969-70	Projected 1970-71
COST	\$4,172.00	\$4,326.00	\$5,212.00





PROJECT COSTS BY OBJECT OF  
EXPENDITURE AND SOURCE OF FUNDING  
1969-70 FISCAL YEAR

WATER WELL CONTRACTORS EXAMINING BOARD

OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE

Personal Services. . . . .	\$1,126.00
Operations . . . . .	1,300.00
Capital. . . . .	0,000.00
Grants and Benefits. . . . .	<u>1,800.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENDED	<u><u>\$4,326.00</u></u>

SOURCE OF FUNDING

Earmarked Revenue Fund . . . . .	\$4,326.00
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TOTAL FUNDING	<u><u>\$4,326.00</u></u>
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